

Appendix 4

Sample recipient letter for misuse of EBT card

DRAFT

Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
1 West Wilson Street, P.O. Box 309
Madison, WI 53701-0309
Fraud Prevention Unit



Date

Client Name
Address
City, State, Zip Code

Re: FOODSHARE CARD MISUSE

Dear:

We have received information regarding possible misuse of your Wisconsin FoodShare benefits card. We are writing to remind you that it is illegal for anyone to receive FoodShare benefits and then sell them. It is also illegal to allow others to use your card if they are not authorized to do so. We have included a brochure, *Your Wisconsin Quest Card*, with more information.

The application that your household signed contained the FoodShare Penalty Warning (see below). Please read this carefully. It is important to abide by FoodShare Program rules.

FOODSHARE PENALTY WARNING

I understand that any member of my household who intentionally breaks any of the following rules can be barred from the FoodShare program for 12 months after the first violation; 24 months after the second violation or for a first violation involving a controlled substance; and permanently for the third violation.

- Giving false information or hiding information to get or continue getting FoodShare benefits,
- Trading, selling, or altering FoodShare benefits,
- Using FoodShare benefits to buy non-food items, like alcohol or tobacco, or
- Using another person's FoodShare benefits, identification card, or other documentation. Depending upon the value of misused benefits, an individual can also be fined up to \$250,000.00, imprisoned up to 20 years, or both. A court can also bar an individual from the program for an additional 18 months. You may also be permanently disqualified if you are convicted of trafficking FoodShare benefits of \$500.00 or more. You will be ineligible to participate for 10 years if you are found to have made a fraudulent statement or representation with respect to identity and residence in order to receive multiple benefits at the same time.

This letter is to remind you of the rules. We are not taking any action with your benefits at this time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (608) 266-0930.

Sincerely,

Michael McKenzie
Fraud Prevention Program Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Health Services